

TX-RPOA E-News

From RPOA Texas Outreach and Responsible Pet Owners Alliance
"Animal welfare, not animal 'rights' and, yes, there is a difference."
Permission granted to crosspost.

March 17, 2009

Friday the 13th was lucky for Texans this year as it was the deadline for filing bills for the Texas State Legislature's 81st Session! We've studied all the bills pertaining to animals; discarded some and chose positions on those remaining. RPOA is the "reasonable voice regarding animal issues in Texas." Our first consideration is the intended or sometimes unintended consequences of bad legislation. We'll have the bills on our website soon with Talking Points.

Our lobbyist has this list and is hard at work for us but we need members to attend committee hearings which is the place to kill legislation. If it is impossible for you to attend, at least help with phone calls, faxes and emails to committee members - all three - when we send out Action Alerts! With 15 bills of major concern, that's 15 committee hearings in 2 1/2 months before adjournment on June 1st. So get ready. On committee hearings, contact all the committee members, not just your own representatives. But you will need to educate your own representatives also on these bills.

We've learned a lot from watching other states fight this same legislation and will publicize strategy at the appropriate time. It includes much more than just the bill's details. In the meantime, feel free to circulate this message and urge everyone to donate for our lobbying efforts at www.rpoatexasoutreach.org
Stay tuned!

BILLS FILED

81st Session of the Texas State Legislature

(For a copy of the bills go to: www.capitol.state.tx.us and type in bill number)

Top Priority Bills indicated with asterisk are to be killed, no amendments and no compromise.

The other bills are of great concern also.

OPPOSE HOUSE BILLS

* HB 3180 by Thompson, breeder/dealer licensing and regulations (Companion Bill SB 1910, Identical)

* HB 4277 by Menendez, sterilization of dogs and cats or \$300 Intact Animal Permit per dog and cat (Companion Bill SB 1845, Identical)

* HB 2001 by McCall, unlawful restraint of dog (Companion Bill SB 634, Identical)

HB 458 by Leibowitz, limitations on the number of dogs at a residence in certain counties

HB 1982 by Martinez Fischer, dangerous and vicious dogs

HB 1395 by Farrar, animal cruelty livestock & nonlivestock

HB 925 by Dutton, handling of or caring for a pit bull breed of dog by certain minors

HB 2732 by Eissler/Strama, barking dogs in counties 275,000 population or more unincorporated areas

HB 3380 by Doug Miller, barking dogs in county unincorporated areas

HB 1147 by Frost, dog fighting equipment (Companion Bill SB 554, Identical)

OPPOSE SENATE BILLS

* SB 1845 by Van de Putte, sterilization of dogs and cats or \$300 Intact Animal Permit per dog and cat (Companion Bill HB 4277, Identical)

* SB 1910 by Whitmire, Breeder/Dealer licensing and regulations (Companion Bill HB 3180, Identical)

* SB 634 by Seliger, unlawful restraint of a dog. (Companion Bill HB 2001, Identical)

SB 554 by Whitmire, dog fighting equipment (Companion Bill HB 1147, Identical)

SUPPORT HOUSE BILLS

* HB 1046 by Homer, appeals process in the disposition of cruelly treated animals

HB 205 by Aycock, restraint of certain dogs on annexed or otherwise acquired property used for agricultural operations

HB 435 by Lucio III, penalty for theft of pet

HB 243 by Alonzo, equipping K-9 law enforcement vehicles with a heat alarm system

HB 853 by Laubenberg, relating to inclusion of pets in protective orders (Companion Bill SB 1840, Identical)

HB 1701 by Laubenberg, roadside sale of puppies

HB 3322 by Kleinschmidt, animal identification system (Companion Bill SB 682, Identical)

SUPPORT SENATE BILLS

SB 1840 by Uresti, including pets in protective orders (Companion Bill HB 853, Identical)

SB 682 by Eltife, animal identification system (Companion Bill HB 3322, Identical)

NEUTRAL HOUSE BILLS

HB 405 by Harless, authority of animal control officer to carry a bite prevention stick in performance of official duties (Companion Bill SB 1298, Identical)

HB 1704 by Laubenberg, increasing penalty animal cruelty

HB 2042 by Flynn, notice regarding impoundment county strays (Companion Bill SB 1851, similar)

NEUTRAL SENATE BILLS

SB 1298 by Huffman, authority of animal control officer to carry bite prevention stick in performance of official duties (Companion Bill HB 405)

SB 1851 by Deuell, notice regarding impoundment county strays (Companion Bill HB 2042, similar)

RPOA Texas Outreach (501 C4)

Responsible Pet Owners Alliance (501 C3)

900 NE Loop 410 #311-D

San Antonio, TX 78209

Website: www.responsiblepetowners.org

\$15 Annual dues (January - December)

To subscribe or unsubscribe, e-mail rpoa@texas.net.